

The Blanche Mine Disaster.

The mine disaster in Brooke county was awful in its results, but the most impressive fact about it was that, unless many skilled miners are mistaken, the accident could have been prevented.

Such casualties will occur, but it is rarely that it can be shown before one does occur that those interested have been warned of the danger and its source pointed out. It is a part of the sworn testimony that when State Mine Inspector Harr visited the Blanche mine, only a week ago, he was asked to consider the dryness of the mine and the unusual quantity of dust, and his attention was directed to the fact that twice explosions had been caused by this peculiarity of the mine.

It is a fearful responsibility that must rest upon some man's conscience, and when the facts are considered the coroner's jury's "censure" seems a very mild verdict.